

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is respectfully requested that the amendments to the above-referenced application, presented herein, be entered prior to examination.

The specification has been amended herein to correct the "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" section to include the entire lineage from which the present application claims benefit of and priority to.

By way of this amendment, claims 1-20 have been cancelled.

Claims 21-31 have been added.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by this amendment.

An early and favorable response on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Lisa J. Moyles
Attorney for Applicant(s)

***United States Surgical, a division of
TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP
150 Glover Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06856
Telephone: (203) 845-1941
Fax: (203) 845-4266***